

THE SCROLL

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O'GORMAN HIGH SCHOOL | SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

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CHEYENNE CHONTOS / KNIGHT SCROLL

Senior Sam Maxwell, junior Josie Johnson, junior Emmy Bear and senior Mattie Penisten perform in O'Gorman's Children Play, *The Magical Lamp of Aladdin*. The show was performed Nov. 21-23.

SAT changes focus more on math, writing concepts

Rudy Lawler
Staff Writer

The College Board of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) has announced that the SAT is set to change next year. Although the PSAT is not currently being changed, this may affect its impact on students who hope to ready themselves for later testing.

Some of the students who have taken the test said that they appreciated the study guide that comes with registration.

"I purchased the packet to study, and I think the hours I put into it were definitely worth the effort," said sophomore Preston Zimprich.

Students are also preparing to take the PSAT a year early in order to get a better feel for the

testing environment.

"Taking the test a year early made the testing a lot more comfortable," said sophomore Tom Fritz.

Many juniors at O'Gorman

"Taking the test a year early made the testing a lot more comfortable."

- Tom Fritz

take the annual PSAT in order to prepare for the rigorous testing that comes with the SAT, but they may miss out on the preparation that usually accompanied the tests. Along with the normal testing difficulties, the test will

be even longer, a length of more than four hours compared to the PSAT length of more than two. New math concepts will also be introduced.

However, in collaboration with the College Board, new sources are being made in order to prepare students for the test, such as the student teaching site "Khan Academy." This site and others will be releasing new videos and instructionals to help students with the changes, according to the College Board.

The new test will have an optional 50 minute writing section, new emphasis on words deemed college mandatory and finding or explaining evidence in writing according to the College Board. The test will also no longer have penalties for incorrect answers.

Teen invents mobile apps, finds success

Tess Wilson
Staff Writer

People don't have to be big shots with college degrees to turn their passions into a career. In fact, junior Daniel Sathyanesan was active in the mobile app industry before he even started high school.

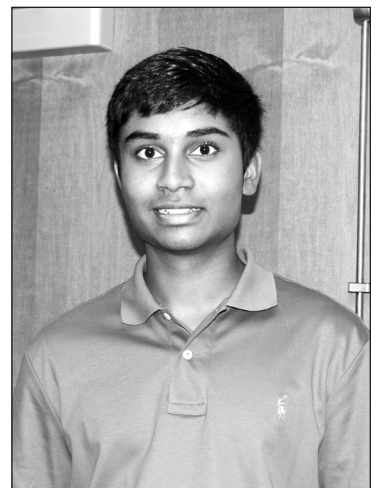
"I got interested in web design and graphic design because I wanted to create something cool," said Sathyanesan. "Programming gives you the power to create anything."

Sathyanesan has experience in developing a wide variety of applications. "I have designed apps that range from powerful image editors to simple eight-bit games and utilities," said Sathyanesan.

An innovator, Sathyanesan always takes into account the needs of consumers when building applications. His products are mainly based on necessity and uniqueness.

"The most challenging aspect of being a developer and entrepreneur is having to keep innovating," said Sathyanesan.

In addition to trying to stay current, freelance app developers are also faced with the challenge of big-time competition. "Large players in the technology world like Facebook and GluMobile are public companies with billions to spend on advertising and product development," said Sathyanesan. "It is very challenging to compete with these companies even



Daniel Sathyanesan

if you have a product better than theirs."

Not only is Sathyanesan getting an early start in app development – he's also getting paid.

"I make most of my money through acquisition deals," said Sathyanesan. "In these deals, a company or sole proprietorship will buy all the legal rights to the application." He also generates revenue through advertisements and in-app purchases.

Sathyanesan has sold the legal rights to about 15 of his apps. Some of Sathyanesan's recently acquired apps include *FloppyBron*, *4 Dots*, *WeatherGO*, and *Percento*. All of these apps are available in the app store.

Sathyanesan, along with an international group of developers, recently created a social messaging app called "TapApp." For more information visit www.tapapp.me.

Students attempt to find balance between school, job pressures

Nick McCoy
Staff Writer

Many students have reached an age when they can start applying for and accepting a job. There are various reasons for wanting a job: money, experience or simply something to fill time.

Between a job, family, school, work and a personal life, however, it can be difficult to find time to relax.

"I work an average of 25 hours per week," said sophomore Tom Fritz. "I do try to get weekends

off so I can hang out with my friends and family."

The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation sets the maximum hours for anyone under the age of 16 to four hours per school day. The limit for non-school days is eight hours.

Many places in and around Sioux Falls require that an employee must be at least 16 to apply or work in certain areas of the profession. Workers under the age of 16 were not allowed into any occupation that is danger-

ous to life, health or their moral values.

Junior Brady Schuver works two jobs for 15-25 hours during the school week and 30 or more hours during the summer. He is employed at Grille 26 and Sun n' Fun.

"Having two jobs has made casual conversation with strangers easier for me," said Schuver. "I just wish I had more free time."

Students interested in gaining a part-time job can check the job postings outside of the counseling office.



CHEYENNE CHONTOS / KNIGHT SCROLL

Junior Nako Oshimo looks through the job postings. These postings can be found outside the counseling office.

Cathedral set to host annual music concert

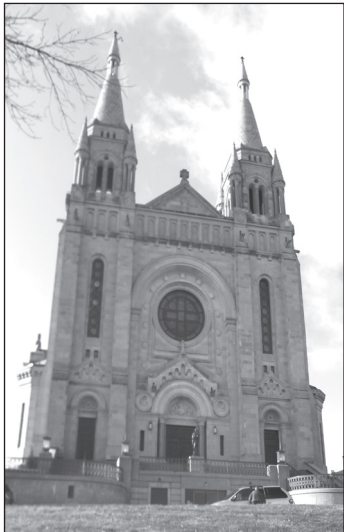
Liesel Julsrud
Activities Co-Editor

This year's 18th annual Christmas at the Cathedral will be held Dec. 18-21. This program is a concert held to celebrate the story of the nativity by musical and narrative renditions.

The performance is entitled "Do You Hear What I Hear?" with performances including the South Dakota Symphony conducted by Dan Goeller, soprano Shelly Jennings (who will be joining the show once again). Tenor Mike Eldred will be joining the concert, replacing long-time performer Scott Piper.

Among the panel of talented actors and singers, one in particular stands out. The newest addition to the show, tenor Mike Eldred, is one of North America's most sought after tenors.

Eldred has performed with the Broadway cast of *Les Misérables*, the 25th anniversary cast of *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and Nashville's production of *West Side Story*. This year's event proceeds will go towards complet-



CHEYENNE CHONTOS / KNIGHT SCROLL

Cathedral of St. Joseph will host the 18th annual Christmas at the Cathedral on Dec. 18-21.

ing renovations in Cathedral of St. Joseph, and benefitting the construction of the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House.

Christmas at the Cathedral is a great opportunity to come together with family and the community to begin the Christmas celebration.

For ticket information, contact the Catholic Foundation Office at (605) 988-3765 or e-mail mpavlow@sfcatholic.org.

Community given opportunity to support Caminando Juntos

Cheyenne Chontos
Editor-in-Chief

Starting Dec. 2 the O'Gorman community was once again given the opportunity to donate to Cominando Juntos through the Advent Angel Tree. Caminando Juntos is an organization that focuses on helping lower-income families in Sioux Falls.

"When we first talked to Caminando Juntos, we asked them if they would like to partner together for us to provide Christmas toys to the people they minister to, and they turned us down," said campus minister

Jonathan Konz. "Their reason: their people are hungry. They don't need toys. They need food. They need clothes for their babies. They need gas to get to work."

For this reason students can request that their donations go to food, infant necessities, gas or books for children.

"I just think its cool that each student gets to decide how the money is being spent," said junior Taylor Billion. "It's really like giving a personal gift to these people."

The goal this year is for

O'Gorman to raise over \$2,000. Last year the school raised a total of \$1,955 through the Advent Angel Tree.

"The Advent Angel Tree is a great cause because it helps the people who need it the most," said sophomore James Nelson. "I definitely plan on donating this year. I hope every student opens their heart and donates."

The last chance to students to donate to the Advent Angel Tree will be Dec. 12. If students donate \$5 or more they will be given an ornament to decorate the Angel Tree.

Reconciliation prepares Catholic students to receive Christ during Christmas season

Nate Sotebeer
Sports Editor

On Dec. 3 O'Gorman students received the Sacrament of Reconciliation in their theology classes. This prepares Catholics to be properly disposed to receive the Eucharist.

This event is scheduled during the season of Advent so that students can be ready for Christ's coming.

"We should be pure when

"Reconciliation is another way of preparing for the coming of the Lord."

- Jonathan Konz

Christ comes at Christmas," said senior Karl Shlanta.

This sentiment is echoed by Campus Minister Jonathan Konz.

"Reconciliation is another way of preparing for the coming of the Lord," said Konz.

This event requires priests from around the city so that all students have the opportunity to receive the forgiveness of God. All priests are asked when they are able to come if they choose to do so.

"They love coming because all of the students here are their parishioners also," said Konz.

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Letters to the Editor
All letters should be short and concise. The writer should include a name and contact information. All letters are subject to editing for grammar, conventions and length.

Editorial Policy
All editorials are the sole opinion of the writer and do not necessarily represent the beliefs of the O'Gorman faculty, administration or the Knight Scroll.

Campus Ministry Events and Christian Service

Thursdays at 7 a.m. - Endow

Thursdays at 7 a.m. - Guy's Group

Dec 1-12 - Advent Angel Tree

Dec 2-31 - HorsePower

Jan 14 - FCA

Jan 14 - Campus Ministry Core Team Retreat

Jan 27 - Campus Ministry Core Team Meeting

Jan 28 - FCA

Feb 4 - FCA



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Debate sees continued growth, performs well at tournaments

Shreya Chandran
Activities Co-Editor

This year O'Gorman's debate team is bigger and better than ever.

The first tournament, Pumpkinstakes, took place in Watertown.

Junior Zach Shaw, a novice debater, received a perfect score, meaning no speaker points were deducted.

While the awards are great, the activity itself is loved.

Junior Sean Downey finds many aspects of debate enjoyable. "I think that a lot of topics can be really interesting and that makes it enjoyable," said Downey. "It's an activity that's fun. It gives me a lot of experience with public speaking and other life skills. I know debate is going to help me later in life."

Later tournaments ended with several O'Gorman debaters receiving awards and high

scores.

The debate team did very well at the George McGovern tournament in Mitchell.

Seniors Jonah Dally and Daniel Waddell won first place in varsity policy debate.

Sophomore Alex King got

"It's a lot of work but I really enjoy it."

- Zach Shaw

fifth in domestic extemporaneous speaking and senior Liesel Julsrud placed third while Jonah Dally received second.

Sophomores Olivia Boyum and Alex King got fourth in varsity public forum.

The novice also did well in Mitchell. Shaw and sophomore Ellie Asfora placed fourth in novice policy debate.

Along with winning many

awards, the debate team has had some memorable moments as well.

"At McGovern, my partner Ellie Asfora and I placed fourth, but because of a tab room error, we were unable to go on stage and were given awards later," said Shaw.

The debate team has been preparing for future tournaments with weekly team practices and by working on arguments.

"It's a lot of work but I really enjoy it," said Shaw.

The national qualifier for speech takes place in February, which will end the season for most.

For some the season will end at the national tournament which will be held in Dallas, Texas.

"If we can make it to nationals again, it will all be worth it," said senior Jonah Dally.

After several tournaments interp set for state festival as team finds early success

Liesel Julsrud
Activities Co-Editor

This year's oral interp team has raised the bar once again. With 111 members and already outstanding accomplishments prove that they are the team to beat.

Looking at the strong upperclassmen leadership and fresh faces, coach Teresa Fester is pleased with the season thus far. "There is always work to be done, and everything is constantly changing, but it is going really well," said Fester.

At Watertown Pumpkinstakes on Nov. 1, the team swept first place in every oral interp event except one since they had no entries. The following week at the Washington Warrior Invitational, the readers theatre team, duo team of juniors Shreya Chandran and Kelly Maxwell, and sophomore Kathryn Hammer in novice oratory claimed

first place in their respective divisions. The team also placed approximately six other interpers in the top five in the tournament.

The weekend of Nov. 22 was the Mitchell McGovern Forensics Invitational. First place finalists included seniors Alyse Brown in storytelling, Christian Heisler in humorous, junior Shreya Chandran in serious interp and sophomore Lauren Burton in novice original oratory.

The 2014 State Oral Interpretation Festival was set for the weekend of Dec. 5-6 in Huron.

Although their accomplishments seem like the team would be strongly set for state, that is not the case. "State is unpredictable," said Fester. "I tell my kids that they go into rounds with one chance, and after their piece, it is out of their hands."



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Team brings high hopes as new year approaches

Samantha Lenz
Opinion Editor

The O’Gorman Knights may have not reached the state tournament last season, but coming off a productive off season the Knights plan to go far this season.

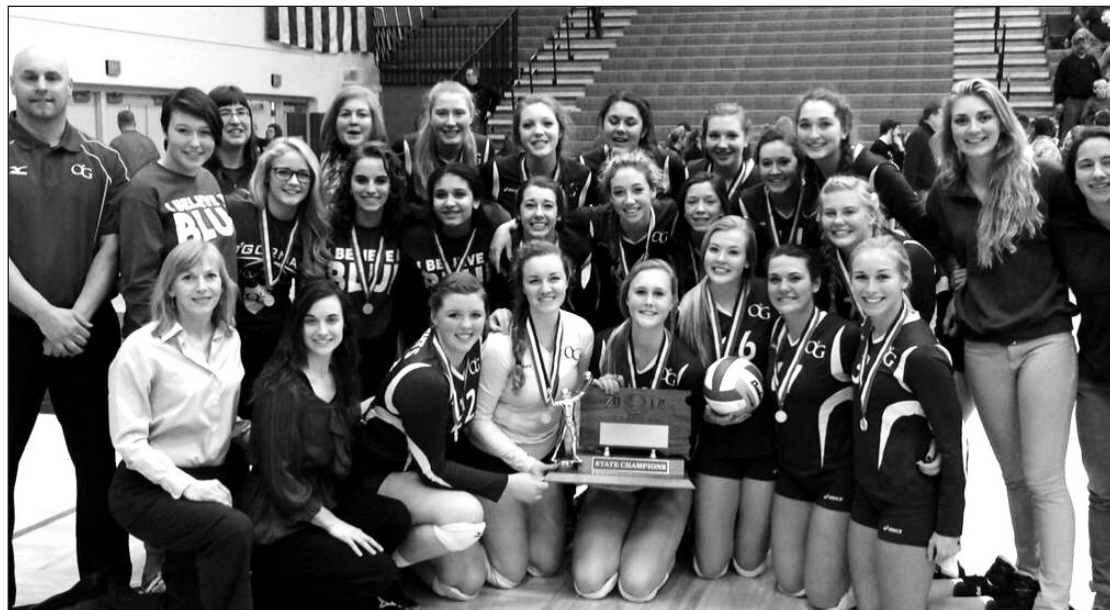
“We are a deep team and there are going to be a lot of guys pushing for minutes on the varsity squad,” said head coach Derek Robey. “In fact, we could easily sub five at a crack.”

The Knights will look to all team members to compete at a higher level.

“Age doesn’t determine leadership or playing time,” said Robey. “We have a few real good seniors that could help lead the cause and could become good leaders of this year’s team if they believe in the team concept.”

Last season, the Roosevelt Rough Riders took home the hardware against city rivals Lincoln.

“I’m really excited about this year’s team,” said senior Davis Cowan. “We had a great summer playing together and we have a lot of potential.”



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The O’Gorman Lady Knights volleyball team displays their state championship trophy. This was the second title in a row won by the team.

Lady Knights earn second straight state volleyball title

Nate Sotebeer
Sports Editor

The O’Gorman Lady Knights volleyball team won their second straight class AA volleyball championship on Nov 22. The state tournament was held at the Summit Activities Center in Yankton.

As defending champions, the team faced pressure throughout the season.

“It’s easy to win a state title once, it’s harder to defend it,” said senior libero Katie Kunkel.

“We had to push ourselves hard every day to want it as much as every other team.”

In the tournament, they faced pressure as the number one seed, though head coach Julie Kolbeck said that they handled it well.

“They focused on the things they were able to control and played their game,” said Kolbeck.

Though the team had not dropped a set to an opponent in their class, the Lady Knights still

had challenges along the way.

“In general we had a tough road ahead of us: Vegas, Minnesota and Iowa. We were going to take some losses,” said Kolbeck. “The question was going to be what were we going to take away from that?”

Kunkel says the team worked hard every game and played to their strengths.

“We handled the pressure by making each point what it was worth,” said Kunkel.

Lady Knights hope to make return trip to tournament

Samantha Lenz
Opinion Editor

After finishing third in the state tournament last season, the Lady Knights basketball team intends to have a successful season.

“This is a hard-working group with good basketball IQ that has very high expectations of themselves,” said head coach Kent Kolsrud.

“I believe that we should have been a contender in the championship game last year but we didn’t quite make it there,” said senior Jess Mieras.

This season all games against Sioux Falls high schools are expected to produce competitive games.

“It’s always been fun to play our city rivals because we have been playing against a lot of these girls every season,” said senior Kate Cartwright.

With a deep senior class to help lead the way, the Lady Knights are expected to go far this season.

“They are a very dedicated and talented group that understands how hard we need to work to accomplish their goals,” said Kolsrud.

New wrestling coach brings passion to team

Cheyenne Chontos
Editor-in-Chief

After Coach Jeff Gordon’s retirement last year, the O’Gorman wrestling team welcomes Matt Lynch as their new head coach. Lynch has been an assistant coach for the team since 2005.

“I love wrestling because it’s one of those sports where you find out who you are,” said Lynch. “When you’re out on the mat, you’re the only one who can really choose what the outcome will be. You’re pushed to your breaking point, and that’s when you find that you’re capable of doing more than you thought you could.”

Lynch said that his goal for the team this year is to get a few wrestlers to the state tournament.

Senior wrestler Ryan O’Connell shares in that goal.

“We’re a young, enthusiastic team,” said O’Connell. “We really want to win some duals this

**“I love wrestling because it’s one of those sports where you find out who you are.”
-Matt Lynch**

year and hopefully get into the state tournament.”

Despite his focus on the team, wrestling isn’t Lynch’s only passion. He also enjoys his work at Keystone Treatment as a counselor, and he plays sports with his three children and wife.

Lynch said that he is excited for the season, but that the team will miss Coach Gordon this year.

“I would really like to thank Coach Gordon for his years of service and commitment,” said Lynch. “We’re grateful for his teaching and all he’s done for the team.”

Bowling team looks to continue success

Cheyenne Chontos
Editor-in-Chief

On Nov. 3 the O’Gorman boys and girls bowling teams started practicing at Empire Bowl.

“We have some pretty strong bowlers this year,” said Emily Runge. “We’d really like to get into the state championship for both boys and girls.”

The boys team this year consists of 12 boys, led by captains Sam Lacasse and Reece Mimmack. The girls team has 16 bowlers, making a total of 28 bowlers this year. Runge, Taryn Sakry and Madison LeGrand are the girls team captains.

“We’re coming off of back to back state titles and have returning players that have had plenty of experience bowling for O’Gorman,” said Mimmack.

Wrestlers optimistic about new season

Shreya Chandran
Activities Co-Editor

As the 2014-2015 season approaches, the Knights wrestling team brings renewed optimism along with a new coach.

“Coach Lynch is a great coach and he doesn’t really seem like a new coach because he’s been here for so long as an assistant. He is a really good motivator and makes all of us work to be as good as we can be,” said junior Gage Hillberg.

The motivated team is ready to meet future goals and surpass past accomplishments.

“As a team last year we wrestled well but there is a lot we can do to improve,” said Hillberg. “We all work hard in the room so this should be a really fun year for us.”

Last year seniors Ryan O’Connell and Mycah Cummings hit the 20 win mark, but O’Connell said he wants to do

even better this year.

“I want to go and place at the state tournament,” said O’Connell.

The state tournament will be Feb. 27-28, 2015.

“I think this year we will be a better team overall. A lot of our underclassmen have stepped up the past few years and now that they are older and more experienced I think we will do better in duals,” said O’Connell.

The first tournament will be Dec. 16 at O’Gorman. Before then, the wrestling team prepares by simply getting into the room and wrestling.

But the wrestling team has not forgotten about their former coach.

“Thanks to Mr. Gordon for all that he has done for us as coach of the wrestling team,” said Hillberg. “There isn’t a person that wants you to be your best more than him.”



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Downtown Taste Test



Josiah's Coffeehouse and Café

Located on the first level of the Lumber Exchange Building on 8th and Railroad, Josiah's provides a calm, rustic coffeehouse environment, complete with indie folk music.

Josiah's lunch foods are delicious. Our favorites are the flatbreads, which are offered in a variety of unique flavors such as goat cheese, prosciutto and fig jam. Their salads, soups and sandwiches also make for a nice light meal.

Our favorite pastries were the blueberry muffin and the dark chocolate covered coconut macaroon. The macaroon was exceptional. Often, coconut macaroons are dry and burnt but Josiah's were just the opposite. Both treats pair perfectly with a cup of coffee or hot cocoa.

Josiah's orders their coffee from Caffè Vita Roasting Co. in Seattle. We tried the house coffee, which was very satisfying, and the chai tea latte, which tasted like Christmas in a cup. Josiah's also sells smoothies, juices and bottled water and sodas.

Although their service was somewhat lacking, Josiah's unique menu, downtown location and relaxed atmosphere make it the perfect place for lunch or afternoon snack.



Queen City Bakery

Queen City Bakery swept the board in atmosphere and pastries. Located slightly out of the way on East Eighth Street, Queen City is well frequented without the busy chaos of Coffea and Josiah's, or the uncomfortable silence of CH Patisserie.

The rustic, industrial atmosphere of the old railroad building is made more sophisticated by retro lighting and a glamorous chandelier. The indie music in the background adds to the low key atmosphere.

What really sets Queen City apart is their food. The quiches and croissants melt in your mouth. The marshmallows are instant, fluffy happiness that put Jet Puffs™ to shame. The cookies are a perfect balance between a gooey center and crispy edges. Queen City's cakes and cupcakes, iced with homemade buttercream, are not only beautiful to look at, but wonderful to eat.

Queen City's coffees, hot chocolates and teas are all ordered from New York. The iced coffee is served with coffee ice cubes so the melting ice doesn't water down the flavor. Queen City's hot beverages were second only to those of Coffea.

Queen City is a great place for a lunch break, Sunday afternoon outing or after-school snack.



Coffea Rosterie

Coffea is everything a coffeehouse should be: a charming Phillips Ave. location, perfectly moist coffee cake and a staff of cute, hipster baristas make for an enjoyable coffee drinking experience.

Coffea imports their coffee beans from exotic locals including Ethiopia, Guatemala, El Salvador and Kenya, and roasts the beans in house. Because Coffea make their flavor syrups in house, their menu is fairly small compared to those of chain coffee shops that use store-bought flavoring. What they are lacking in options, however, they more than make up for in quality and flavor.

We tried the Dark Hot Chocolate, the Butterscotch Latte and the Lumberjack Latte. The Lumberjack, made with maple syrup and extract, was the preferred coffee drink, and the Dark Hot Chocolate is the most delicious hot chocolate we have ever consumed.

Coffea's downside is the lack of food options. Apart from the typical array of muffins, scones and coffee cake, they offer very little solid sustenance. However, if you are looking for a moderately priced warm beverage while doing your downtown Christmas shopping, Coffea is your place.



CH Patisserie

CH Patisserie owner Chris Hanmer won *Top Chef Just Desserts* and was executive pastry chef at the Ritz-Carlton, so it is surprising that he chose Sioux Falls as the home of his new bakery.

Hanmer's confectionary expertise are confirmed by the beautiful presentation of his pastries. Each individual tiramisu, lemon tart and carrot cake is a work of art. Unfortunately, the pastry's flavors are not as laudable as the presentation. They are too sweet and flatlined.

Hanmer redeems himself with his French macaroons. Unfortunately, as much as you want to stuff your face with the colorful cookies, such a dream is not financially viable. Each cookie costs \$2 dollars, which averages out to \$1 a bite.

The bakery's candies, with the exception of the marshmallows, are tasty and would make a cute Christmas gift.

CHP brews Coffea coffee. They do not offer specialty coffees, tea or hot chocolate. They are the only eatery we visited that does not provide ice water. Instead, you can purchase a glass bottle of water, which is frustrating when you've already spent \$10 on a piece of cake and a macaroon.

Visit CH Patisserie if you are willing to splurge on a fancy, sugary treat at a quaint downtown location.

And the winners are...

Best Coffee Drinks: Coffea
Best Hot Chocolate: Coffea
Best Hot Food: Josiah's

Best Cakes: Queen City
Best Muffins: Josiah's
Best Cookies: Queen City

Best Presentation: CH Patisserie
Best Atmosphere: Queen City
Best Service: Coffea

Frozen star releases Christmas album

Abby Baka
Entertainment Editor

Wicked and *Frozen* star Idina Menzel certainly has a beautiful voice, and after the success of her winter-themed song, "Let it Go," it only makes sense that the Tony Award winner would record a Christmas album. Her new album *Holiday Wishes* was released in October.

Menzel's warm, rich sound is perfect for a holiday album. Her Broadway voice lends itself nicely

to the classic Christmas songs but is also well suited for more modern selections.

Unfortunately, she does nothing to set her album apart from other recent Christmas albums. Her renditions are hardly original and contain far too much synthetic percussion and fake jingle bells. Many of the tracks sound like they belong in a Disney Christmas special.

The highlight of the album is undoubtedly "Baby It's Cold Outside", a duet with the ever-

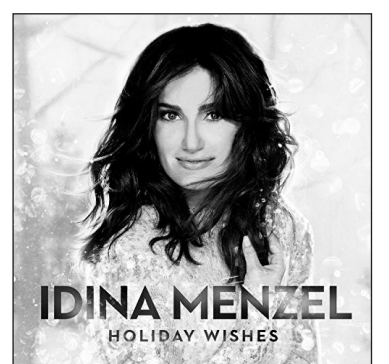
charming Michael Bublé. The artists' jazzy voices fit the song's big-band sound perfectly. The music video is adorable as well.

Jazz saxophonist Kenny G is featured in both "White Christmas" and Menzel's cover of Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas is You." The jazzy instrumentals add some much-needed warmth to these holiday classics.

The album includes two songs that are not typically considered Christmas songs: Pinoc-

chio's "When You Wish Upon a Star" and Joanie Mitchel's "River." Both songs are performed beautifully, and "When You Wish Upon a Star" would make a lovely addition to any Christmas playlist. "River," however, is a song about heartbreak and is a bit bleak considering Christmas is a time for joy and cheer.

Menzel co-wrote a new song for the album. "December Prayer" is a reflective ballad about a soldier returning home for the Holidays. Like the rest of the album,



WARNER BROTHERS

the song is pretty and displays Menzel's talent, but is not likely to become an instant classic.

Testing is important, despite shortcomings

Nate Sotebeer
Sports Editor

As changes are being made to the SAT, and students are taking various standardized tests, some are asking why we must fill out endless bubble sheets. Many students know that our school generally scores highly on the ACT, and recognize that they must do well on the test in order to get into college (preferably with scholarships to defray the huge costs). However, taking the PSAT, PLAN or Aspire, along with AP tests bring visions of al-

phabet soup to the mind. While the short comings of standardized testing have been well documented, it is important to note that there is a reason behind all of our testing. These periods of time in quiet classrooms as we race through hundreds of questions determine our futures, which in turn alter the course of history. If a student does not live up to their full potential due to mistakes made when they were in high school, their talents will not have the greatest impact possi-



Nate Sotebeer
ble. Thus, the efforts we put forth to prepare and take these exams

truly have consequences that will last for generations. Standardized testing has grown into a large scale business as well, which has caused cynicism to rule on thoughts about the changes to the SAT. Many critics have noted that the College Board has sought to make the test more similar to the ACT for the sake of market share. After all, each student pays around \$50 to take the test. However, it is important to note that the changes made will allow students to showcase more

of their abilities. Besides, the criticism of critical thinking not being tested by the College Board is attempting to be remedied with these changes. They are trying to build a better mouse trap so that students will beat a path to their door. Finally, standardized testing is a necessary evil. These exams allow for comparison of students from different schools across the nation on the only fair playing field. So while the system is not perfect, it is making an effort, and we should too.



Top ~~Ten~~15

Ways To Procrastinate for Winter Finals

1. Netflix

2. Writing your Christmas list

3. Baking Christmas cookies

4. Eating Christmas cookies

5. Watching *A Charlie Brown Christmas*

6. Pinteresting DIY Christmas gifts

7. Watching *Elf*

8. Meticulously wrapping Christmas gifts

9. Brainstorming names for the pony you're getting for Christmas

10. Snowball fights

11. Knitting Christmas sweaters

12. Building snowmen

13. Watching the 25 Days of Christmas on ABC Family

14. Painting holiday-themed fingernails

15. Watching the entire 24 hour *A Christmas Story* Marathon

Photo Survey

“If you could be an elf, what would your name be?”



“Gilligan McGiggles”
- Mr. Konz



“Buttersnaps”
- Shaylee Wilcox



“Jonathan”
- Eric Kangas



“La-La”
- Lauren Burton



“Not Santa”
- Joe Shlanta

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